



CELEBRATING
OUR CENTENARY



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

Hall of Fame Inductees

Engineering Heritage Queensland

Em Prof Sydney Arthur PRENTICE AO

FIEAust

1908 - 2002

INDUCTED IN 2010

Sydney used his early experiences in high voltage to develop his research, testing and design and work in radar and telecommunications equipment during WWII.

Appointed Foundation Professor Electrical Engineering at the University of Queensland in 1950, he built a strong teaching and testing team leading the first one-million-volts testing laboratory, the first digital computer centre that marked the start of the computer age in Queensland, and the first lightning observatory.

He opened the new Electrical Engineering building in 1965 and established a chair of Electronics and Communications in 1968.

Sydney was Dean of Engineering for 10 years (1959-1969) and commenced, along with Melbourne University, the annual residential Schools of Power Engineering with the Electricity Supply Association of Australia.

His work on lightning strikes led to improved design and protection of electrical distribution systems and earned him international respect through his contributions to the committee of International Council on Large Electric Systems (CIGRE).

In 1970, he designed an automatic lightning flash counter and established a national network of counters and then had this counter accepted as a standard world-wide.

He was a member of the Queensland Division Committee from 1951-1961 and served as Chair in 1959.

engineersaustralia.org.au